recommendations made in the Fourth Meeting of the Indo-Japan Railway Task Force held in December, 1992; and

(d) the action being taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the fourth meeting of Indo Japan Railway Working Group held in November December, 1992, the areas identified for the possible cooperation were, establishing of Research Wing in Workshops and Production Units, engaging an expert for the Calcutta Metro, seeking technology in the field of PRC OHE masts, optic fibres, 3phase EMU, OHE maintenance and also training of Indian Engineers.

(d) Three Railway engineers have been trained in Japan under this cooperation programme. Project proposals for seeking cooperation in the field of overhead equipment maintenance and optic fibre technology for block and control communication have been sent to Japanese Government.

Construction of New Station Building at Vadodara

4020. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJI RAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foundation of the new station building at Vadodara on western Railway was laid in December, 1988;

(b) if so, what is the progress in construction thereof;

(c) the reasons for inordinate delay in construction thereof;

(d) whether this delay is coming in the way of industrial and other development of Vadodara; and

(e) what is the planned schedule for construction of the new building?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (e) Although the foundation stone for the construction of a new station building on the West side at Vadodara was laid in December 1988, the proposal was dropped on reconsideration. However, an entry from the West side has been provided by extending the foot-over bridge and constructing a booking office. With the provision of two Computerised Passenger Reservation terminals in the City and one at the station, need for further augmenting the facilities by provision of a new station building on the West side does not exist at present.

Market price of Surplus Railway land in Gujarat

4021. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government insist for prevailing market price for the surplus land of the railway of Jamnagar—Surendrananagar cities of Gujarat State;

(b) whether it seems reasonable for claiming market value when the lands in question has been allotted to the railway free of cost at the time of the princely States;

(c) whether the Central Government intend to solve the problem by agreeing to part with the land either free of cost or on normal rate; and

(d) whether the Central Government intend to solve this long standing problem at an earliest date?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) The extent rules do not permit relinquishment of surplus railway land without realization of the current market value of land.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir. However, this depends on the State Government's acceptance of the conditions for relinquishment of railway land.

Survey for new railway lines in Uttar Pradesh

4022. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey for new railway lines has been conducted in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.